Inflate.
Rotate.
Evaluate.℠

# Are You Under Pressure?

## What you may not know about your tires...

***Tire Maintenance***
***Everything Rides On It!***

BRIDGESTONE
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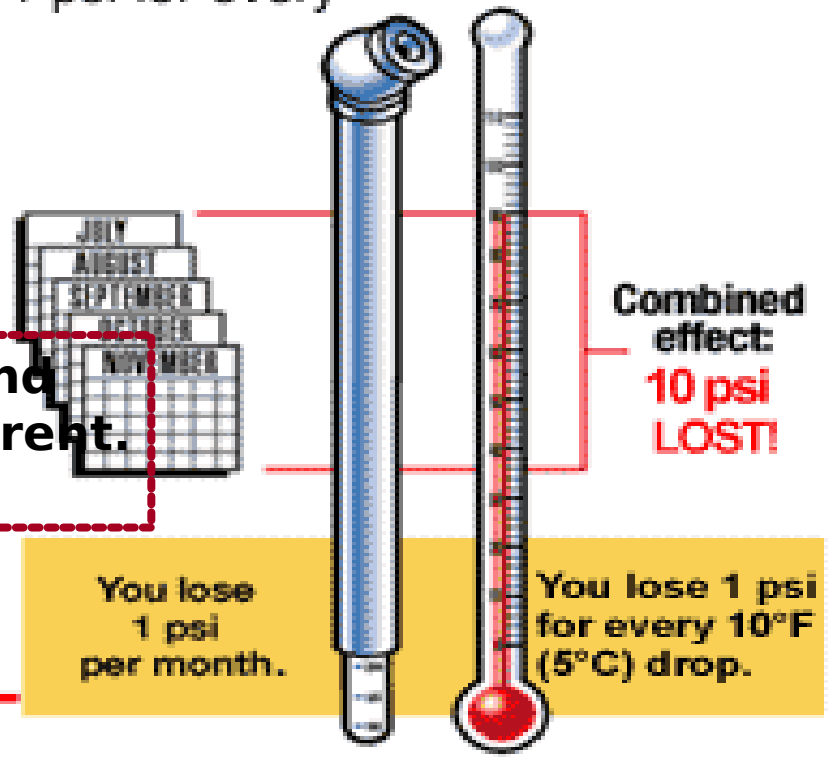
# Why Tires Lose Pressure.

**Tires can lose one psi (pounds per square inch) per month under normal conditions.**
Additionally, tires can lose 1 psi for every 10° F temperature drop.

**On some vehicles, the front and rear tire pressure will be different. Check your owners manual!**



# Just a look won't do it.

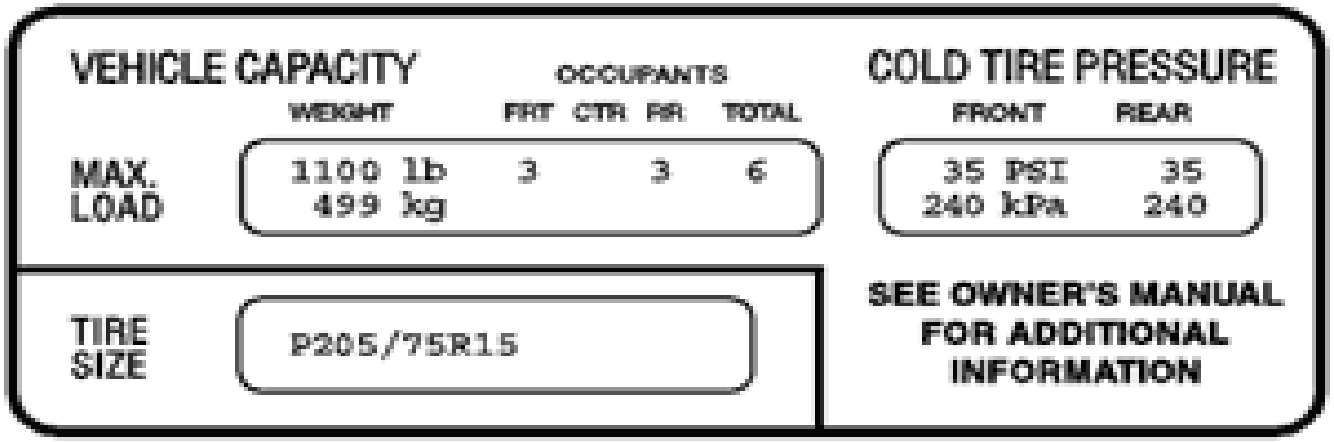
One of these tires is actually ten pounds underinflated. Your eyes can deceive you, so rely on a good tire gauge for an accurate reading.

30 psi

20 psi

Look for the manufacturer's recommended air pressure listed on the sticker of your vehicle's door jamb or owner's manual.

Example:



**This chart shows you how underinflation can create an overload on tires.** Always check your air pressure to make sure it's up to standards, especially if you're carrying extra weight.

30 psi

Gross vehicle weight = 6840 lbs.
Tire carrying capacity at 30 psi = 6840 lbs.

20 psi

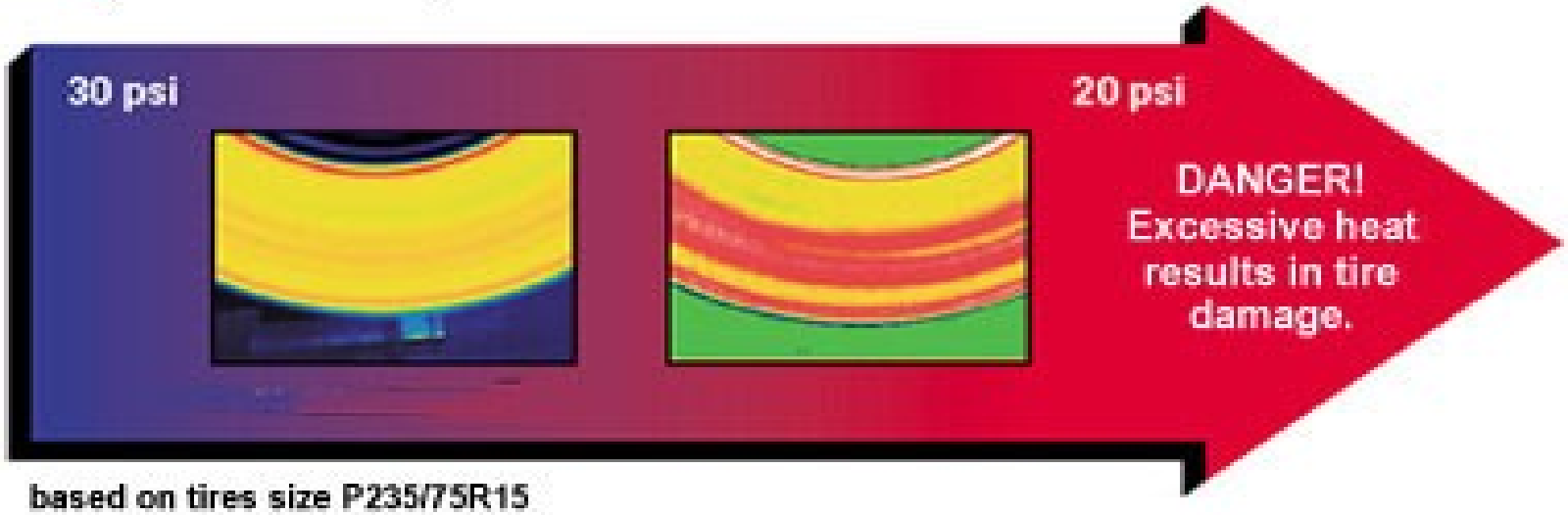
Gross vehicle weight = 6840 lbs.
Tire carrying capacity at 20 psi = 5610 lbs.

**DANGER!**
Overloading results in tire damage.

Based on tire size P235/75R15

**These tires are 1230 pounds OVERLOADED! This is equivalent to *over eight* 150 lb. people.**

**Lower pressure increases heat.** Infrared photography of tires tested at high speed. Damaging heat increases as inflation pressure drops.




based on tires size P235/75R15

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## Air Pressure — Monthly Check

For accuracy, check your air pressure with a tire gauge when tires are cold. Driving heats up tires and makes the reading incorrect.

a) Remove tire valve cap.

b) Place the end of the tire gauge over valve.

Click on any of the pictures for a larger view.

c) Press the tire gauge straight and firmly until the scale extends.

d) If needed, add air and recheck pressure with the tire gauge.

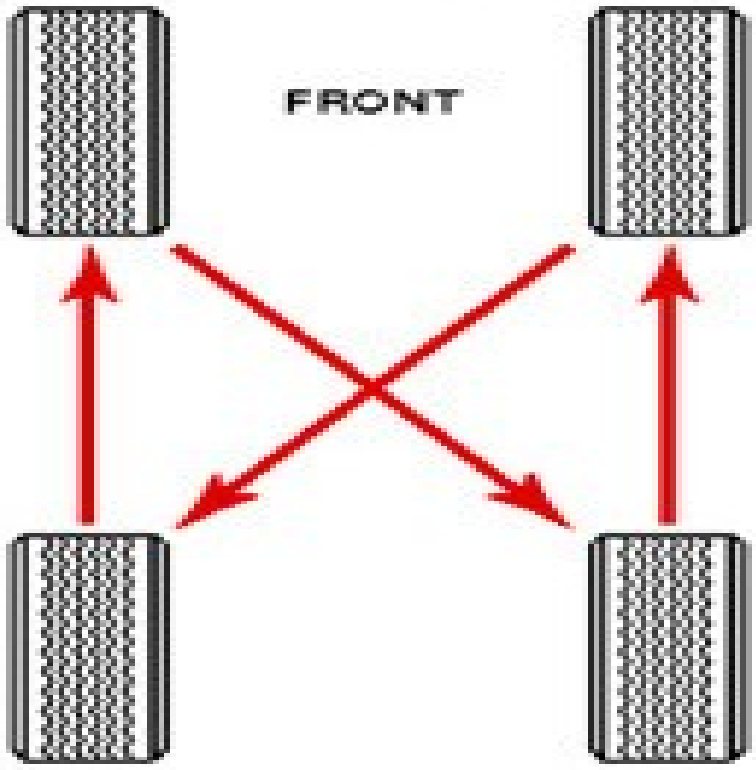
e) Replace valve caps.

**Don’t Forget Your Spare!**

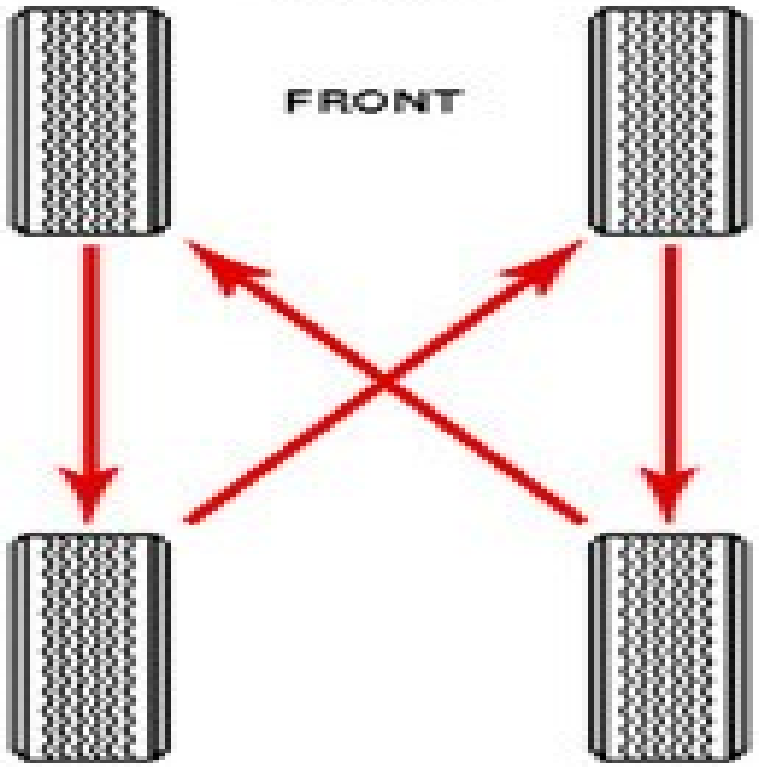
# Tire Rotation

**For maximum mileage, rotate your tires every 5,000 miles(8,000 Km).** Follow the correct rotation patterns.

Rear and Four Wheel Drive Vehicles

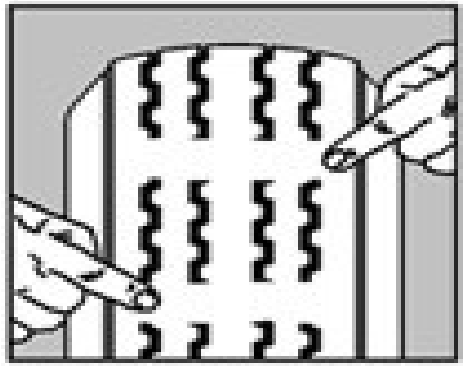



Front Wheel Drive Vehicles

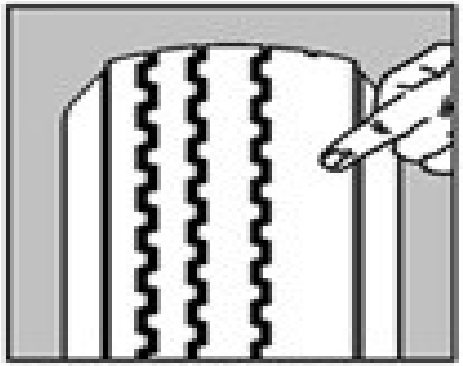


# Tire Wear — Visual Check

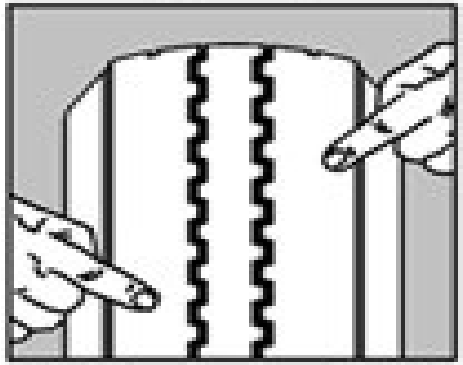
**Check for obvious signs of wear.**



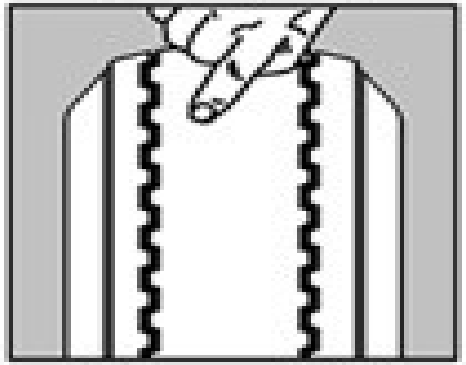
*Exposed tread bars (replace)*



*Irregular shoulder wear (have inspected)*



*Shoulder wear (have inspected)*



*Center wear (have inspected)*

**Place a penny in the tire as shown.** If you can see the top of Lincoln's head, the treads are worn and need replacing.

# Tire Inflation Tips

- ✓ **Check tire air pressure monthly and before long trips**
- ✓ **Check air pressure when tires are “cold”**
- ✓ **If you must add air when tires are hot, add four pounds above the recommended cold air pressure**
- ✓ **Never release air from a hot tire to reach the “cold tire” pressure (When driving, tires run hot, air pressure increases!)**
- ✓ **If your tires lose more than two pounds (psi) per month, the tire, the valve or wheel may be damaged. Inspect, repair or replace!**
- ✓ **Use valve caps to keep valve cores clean and guard against air leakage**

# Winter Driving & Tires–

## Winter driving presents special challenges:

- **You should not depend on “all-season tires”. Recommend you install snow tires!**
- **Winter tires, studs and chains improve traction in snow and ice, they require special care with regard to breaking, cornering and speed.**
- **Choose tires carefully. Too many drivers buy a tire based on price or appearance. Mixing tires is dangerous and not recommended!**
- **In rear-wheel drive vehicles, extra weight applied to rear wheels will improve traction.**

# Conclusion

**Maintaining proper tire pressure, observing tire and vehicle load limits, avoiding road hazards, and following the manufactures recommended inspection and maintenance schedule are important things you can do to avoid tire failure.**

***Remember To:***

**Inflate – Check your tire pressure monthly.**

**Rotate – Follow the manufactures recommended schedule or every 5,000 miles.**

**Evaluate – Routinely inspect tires for signs of tread wear or damage, including the spare.**